



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Cuyahoga Valley
National Park

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Peninsula, OH 44264
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Cuyahoga Valley National Park News Release

For Immediate Release – Friday, August 29, 2014

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Search for Missing Woman Concludes

Brecksville, Ohio – The Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner has confirmed that the body found on Thursday, August 28 is missing person Hillary K. Sharma, age 30 of Eastlake. Sharma's body was found in Cuyahoga Valley National Park after a week-long search. The cause of death is pending determination by the Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner.

Sharma was found in the Cuyahoga River roughly ¼ mile north of Highland Road in Brecksville. The body was discovered by two National Park Service Law Enforcement Rangers hiking off-trail near the Cuyahoga River. The park rangers were searching for missing person Hillary K. Sharma as a part of the daily search efforts.

The body recovery was coordinated by the following agencies: National Park Service, Cleveland Metroparks, Brecksville Fire Department, Southwest Emergency Response Team, Brecksville Police Department, and Sagamore Hills Police Department.

Sharma's Toyota Camry was found at Boston Store Visitor Center around midnight on Thursday, August 21, after Eastlake Police Department issued an alert reporting her missing. A search started at that time, led by a unified incident command including the National Park Service, Valley Fire District, and Brecksville Fire Department. Many participating agencies and response teams assisted with search dogs, horse patrol, boats on the Cuyahoga River, helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft. Personal items found on Friday helped narrow the search area.

The investigation has not revealed anything which leads us to believe that park visitors are at any increased risk.

The National Park Service offers sincere condolences to Sharma's family and friends. The agency also wishes to thank the many organizations and individuals who provided assistance in the search. Any omissions in the list below occurred due to the overwhelming community support for the search:

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Akron Fire Department
American Red Cross
Bath Township Fire Department
Brecksville-Broadview Heights Community
Emergency Response Team
Brecksville Fire Department
Brecksville Police Department
Broadview Heights Fire Department
Brooklyn Heights Fire Department
Cleveland Metroparks
City of Cleveland, Division of Police Aviation
Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park
Cuyahoga County Community Emergency
Response Team
Cuyahoga County Southwest Emergency
Response Team, Water Division
Copley Fire Department
Cuyahoga Falls Fire Department
Cuyahoga Falls Police Department
Eastlake Police Department
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Green City Fire Department
Heinen's Fine Foods
Hudson Fire Department
Independence Fire Department
Macedonia Fire Department

MRC (Medical Reserve Corps)/
Summit County Community Response Team
Northfield Center Fire department
Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Ohio Search Dog Association, Inc.
Ohio State Highway Patrol Troopers and
Aviation
Orion Construction and Electric
Peninsula Police Department
Quad City Community Emergency Response
Team
Red Cross
Richfield Fire Department
Richfield Police Department
Sagamore Hills Police Department
Southwest Emergency Response Team
Stow Fire Department
Stow Police Department
Summit County Special Operations Response
Team, Water Branch
Summit Metro Parks
Summit Search and Rescue Canine Team
Tallmadge Fire Department
Urban Search & Rescue Region 2 and Region 5
Valley Fire District

Boston Store Visitor Center is the primary visitor center for Cuyahoga Valley National Park and is centrally located in the park. The park encompasses 33,000 acres along the Cuyahoga River between Cleveland and Akron, Ohio. Managed by the National Park Service, CVNP combines cultural, historical, recreational, and natural activities in one setting. For more information visit www.nps.gov/cuva or call 330-657-2752.

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